

JAN 03 2007

Appl. No. 10/690,147
Amendment dated January 3, 2007
Reply to Office Action dated December 22, 2006**R E M A R K S**

Reconsideration of this application and its claims as amended is respectfully requested.

Acceptance of the amended drawings is appreciated.

Claims 5 and 7 remain in this application. Claims 1-4 and 6 have been cancelled and formerly-dependent claims 5 and 7 have been amended now to be in independent form, having been rewritten to include all of the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claim(s). No claims have been added.

The Examiner objected to claims 5 and 7 but indicated that claims 5 and 7 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form so as to include all of the limitations of their respective base claim and any intervening claim(s). Claims 5 and 7 have been so amended, and now should be in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application and all of its claims are now in condition for allowance for the reasons previously discussed. All the references cited by the Examiner have been reviewed and considered but are not felt to come within the coverage of the claims now in this case, nor are they felt to disclose or suggest the invention as specifically defined by the claims now of record. If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference relative to this case would advance the prosecution, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the indicated phone number.

No claims have been added, and this amendment is being timely filed within the response period allotted, so no fees should be required for the amendments presented in this response. If any further fees are required for the filing of this amendment or the papers filed concurrently herewith, please charge such additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 23-0125.

Formal favorable action and issuance of a timely Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

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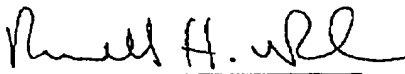
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Respectfully submitted,

APPALACHIAN CAST PRODUCTS, INC.,

Assignee

Date: 1/3/2007

By: 

Russell H. Walker

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